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Cuckfield Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1954

BY

WILLIAM B. STOTT,

L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Camb.)

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CHARLES CLARKE (HAYWARDS HEATH) LTD.

1955

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CUCKFIELD

REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the Cuckfield Rural District Council.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1954.

The Crude Death Rate is 12.12, and this figure, when adjusted, gives a Corrected Death Rate of 8.72, which compares with 11.3 for England and Wales.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 8.60, as compared with 25.5 for the country as a whole and with 26.32 for 1953.

The Death Rate for tuberculosis is nil as compared with 0.18 for England and Wales.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

On page 21 will be found details of the immunisation position, which, summarised, is as follows:—

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| 0- 5—Percentage of children immunised | .. | .. | 88 |
| 5-15—Percentage of children immunised | .. | .. | 98 |
| 0-15—Percentage of children immunised | .. | .. | 95 |

It is not possible to obtain a much higher percentage in the 0-5 years group, for immunisation is not commenced until the child is three months old, and the full course of combined whooping cough and diphtheria immunisation takes three months.

Great care is taken to ensure that the parents of every child born in the district or entering from another district are informed fully of the advantages of immunisation, first by letter and later, if necessary, by personal approach. The Health Visitors and District Nurses have been very helpful in that they have interviewed all parents who have not accepted by the first approach, and in certain cases Dr. Duke himself visits hesitant parents in an endeavour to obtain their consent. The results achieved have been excellent, as shown by the figures above. A card is made out for every child in the district and full particulars are entered thereon. As an additional check, a book is kept in which is recorded the names of every child born in the district with details of immunisation, and it is thus possible to see at a glance the position from month to month.

The number of parents who refuse immunisation is very few—about 1 per cent.—but there are a few who, though not against it and who say they will have it done, do not bother to take their children to the doctor's surgery or to the clinic. It is to these parents that I address myself through the good services of the local press, and ask them to have their children immunised, without further delay, as if the diphtheria bacillus gains entry into a school or household it will then be too late to immunise and it will be the non-immunised children who will suffer.

For the past two and a half years the procedure adopted in this district is to give the combined vaccine of diphtheria and whooping cough. Parents are given the option of taking their children to their own doctor or to special clinics which are held throughout the district and at which Dr. H. L. Duke, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, attends. The great majority of parents accept the combined immunisation; but if only immunisation against diphtheria is sought this is done at a later date, usually about the eighth or ninth month. Early immunisation against whooping cough is recommended because the first year of life is the most dangerous for this disease. The material used for the combined immunisation is Parke Davis W.D.P., as it has the advantage of not containing alum which is reputed to increase the risk of post-inoculation poliomyelitis when that disease is prevalent in the district. Another advantage is that it is given subcutaneously and not intramuscularly and so is less likely to cause paralysis. The injections are given at monthly intervals, followed by a Schick test three months after the final injection, with of course a further injection if the test is positive. For immunisation against diphtheria alone P.T.A.P. is employed subcutaneously, as this also is reputed to be less liable to cause paralysis.

In order to keep up the immunity a reinforcing injection of P.T.A.P. (Diphtheria Prophylactic) is given at the age of five years and at 10-11 years the child is re-tested and receives a further injection if the immunity has waned. Last year 170 children were tested in the latter category and only 19 were found to have lost their immunity—a percentage of 10—showing that the procedure carried out in this district should be effective in preventing the occurrence of diphtheria.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

One hundred and forty-two cases of infectious disease were notified as compared with 714 in 1953, but the latter figure included 554 cases of measles, a disease which is likely to attack the school population every second year. It is pleasing to report that no cases of poliomyelitis occurred during the year—in 1953 the number of cases was three.

Only odd cases of scarlet fever occurred throughout the district, the total being eleven, and all were of a mild nature.

SONNE DYSENTERY

An outbreak of Sonne dysentery (seventeen cases) occurred in October at a private residential nursery where young children under the age of five years were being cared for. Nursing and domestic staff as well as the children were affected, but none was seriously ill. It is probable that the outbreak originated from two children who were admitted from London, and who had previously suffered from sickness and diarrhoea, but were stated to be non-infectious before admission. The stools of these children were examined in the early stages of the outbreak and were positive for Sonne dysentery. Preventive measures included the taking of specimens of stools from all the inmates and the treatment in the Isolation Hospital of persistent carriers. Strict attention was given, of course, to hygiene, but it was six weeks before the infection was eliminated from the nursery.

FOOD POISONING

An outbreak of food poisoning occurred in a village in the north part of the district in September. The number of cases was twenty adults and two children, all suffering from acute sickness and diarrhoea, and it was found that

they had all consumed ham purchased from a shop in the village. The symptoms appeared between one and eight hours after consumption of the ham.

The hams were prepared by cooking in a steriliser under pressure. The rind was then removed and the ham put in a container where it was pressed and remained until required for retail. From enquiries made it appeared that two hams were responsible for the outbreak, and that two assistants handled the hams in the preparation and cutting up. Specimens were obtained from both hams, the faeces of some of the sufferers and from the nose and hands of the two assistants. The reports from the Laboratory were that *Staphylococcus pyogenes* was isolated from both hams, from the faeces of several of the sufferers, from the nose of one of the assistants and from the hands of the other. A later report from the Laboratory stated that the type of *Staphylococcus pyogenes* (73+) was the same in each case.

In the meantime the proprietor of the shop was advised to cease selling any further shop-prepared ham until the reports from the Laboratory were received. On the receipt of the reports advice was given to the proprietor and assistants about precautions that should be taken to prevent infection of any hams in the future and this included the thorough washing of hands before handling the hams and the wearing of rubber gloves. It was also decided that the assistant with the nasal condition should not handle any ham until he was found to be free of the infection and for which he was advised to obtain treatment from his own doctor.

No further cases occurred, and it can be stated that this outbreak was caused by either one or both the assistants infecting the ham during the process of preparation or sale.

TUBERCULOSIS

On page 18 will be found particulars of tuberculosis during the past twelve years, and it is interesting to compare the position as it was in 1943 with that of 1954. Then there were 23 notifications of pulmonary and 7 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis, whereas in 1954 the figures had dropped to 5 and 1 respectively. In 1943 there were 14 deaths from pulmonary and 4 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. In 1954 not a single death occurred from tuberculosis. As will be seen from the table the fall in mortality has been more pronounced since 1949, whereas the fall in the number of notifications has only occurred in the last two years. The reasons for the decrease in mortality are several and include the following:—

- (1) Notification of the disease at an earlier stage than formerly, due to more people realising that if seen and treated early they will be more likely to recover.
- (2) More use of X-rays by General Practitioners as an aid to diagnosis. (It is generally agreed that X-rays are superior to a clinical examination in finding an early case.)
- (3) Better knowledge among the public of the right foods to buy, resulting in an improvement in nutrition. There can be no doubt that the educational effect of canteen meals for schoolchildren and the classes for senior girls at school on Domestic Science have played a part in this better nutrition.
- (4) It is well known that better housing is also an important factor in reducing the incidence of tuberculosis; and this Council's policy in—
— dealing energetically with unfit houses and giving priority in rehousing of families with a case of tuberculosis, has no doubt played a part

in the reduction of the disease in this district. I will take this opportunity to stress the danger to contacts in the family when a case occurs and where the accommodation in the home is inadequate.

- (5) Examination of close contacts by the Chest Physician and the testing and vaccination of the children with B.C.G.
- (6) The Mass Radiography Unit has been available at either Haywards Heath or Burgess Hill or both during the past few years for anyone who wished to be examined and this has brought to light a number of early cases. A disadvantage has been the distance people have had to travel, and it is hoped that it may not be very long before a Unit is available which can attend for, say, one day in each village.
- (7) The testing and vaccination of senior schoolchildren with B.C.G. has now been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health, and this should have the effect in time of still further reducing the incidence of tuberculosis.
- (8) Treatment by Streptomycin and other new drugs.
- (9) The provision of safe milk has, I am quite sure, affected the reduction in the non-pulmonary rate. In 1936 a milk survey showed that 96 per cent. of the milk consumed was raw ordinary milk and only 4 per cent. was from tuberculin tested herds. In 1952 raw ordinary had dropped to 18 per cent, tuberculin tested had increased to 34 per cent. and pasteurised was 48 per cent.—a tremendous change over to safe milk. During the last two years more dairymen have changed from raw ordinary to pasteurised, and there is very little of the former now being retailed. For some years now every school has been provided with pasteurised milk.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY

By arrangement with Dr. B. G. Rigden, Medical Director, East Sussex Mass Radiography Unit, Surveys were carried out in Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill in the spring of 1954. Examination was open to anyone living in this district, and posters and leaflets giving particulars of the times for attendance were distributed in the villages. In Haywards Heath 1,019 persons attended, and one was found to have active pulmonary tuberculosis and eighteen inactive pulmonary tuberculosis. In Burgess Hill 928 persons attended, and four were found to have active pulmonary tuberculosis and twenty-eight inactive pulmonary tuberculosis. These surveys not only bring to light early and generally unsuspected cases of pulmonary tuberculosis but have a health education value in drawing the attention of the public to the facilities available for early diagnosis.

HOUSING

In 1944-46 a comprehensive survey was carried out and the following table shows the various categories in which the houses were placed:—

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|----|----|----|----|-------------------|
| Category 1. | Fit in all respects | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,972 |
| Category 2. | Minor defects | .. | .. | .. | .. | 885 |
| Category 3. | Major defects but repairable at reasonable cost | | | | | 1,457 |
| *Category 4. | Appropriate for reconditioning | | | .. | .. | 496 |
| Category 5. | Unfit and beyond repair at reasonable cost | | | .. | | 783 |
| | | | | | | <hr/> 5,097 <hr/> |

* Number included in other categories.

Since that time thirty-eight of the 783 unfit houses have been closed or demolished and a further 134 have been improved or made fit by the owners. The remainder of the unfit houses have been re-inspected and re-classified by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and myself during the past two years, with the result that the number of unfit houses now considered to be dealt with in the slum clearance programme during the next five years is 277. In the original survey all houses with low ceilings were placed in the unfit category, but in the more recent survey, if this was the only defect, they were taken out of this category.

It is intended to represent these 277 houses under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, over the next five years, and it is thought likely that in many instances the owners will be willing to improve them and make them fit either with or without improvement grants under the Housing Act, 1949.

Many of the occupants of these unfit houses are old people who have lived all their lives there and do not wish to move, so it is not intended to take action in such cases until they die. When that happens the houses will be represented as they are quite unsuitable in their present state for a family with children. It is difficult, therefore, to say with accuracy how many families will require rehousing by the Council, but it is thought that the figure will be about 20 per year for the next five years.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The improvement and conversion of dwellings with the assistance of a grant has been encouraged by the Council as another step in dealing with the housing problem and as a result during the year, grants were approved on 24 dwellings amounting to £6,230. In addition a further £8,355 was spent by owners on their share of the cost of improvements and the full cost of repairs.

HOUSING OF THE AGED

In my last year's Report I outlined the steps taken by the Council to provide accommodation in the form of flats and flatlets for able-bodied old people. The building was completed in the spring of 1955 and consists of four self-contained flats, each accommodating two people, twenty single rooms and one double room, each having a small sink and draining board, electric cooker, built-in wardrobe and food store.

There are two bathrooms and two separate w.c.s for the use of the occupants of the nine single rooms on the ground floor, and the same for the occupants of the eleven single and double rooms on the first floor. There is in addition a caretaker's flat on the second floor.

The rents of the four self-contained flats are 30s. per week, double room 22s. and single rooms 18s. On the ground floor there is a communal lounge hall where the occupants can meet if they so wish. There was no difficulty about filling the flatlets; in fact the demand was greater than the supply, and the scheme should help in maintaining the health of the old people, and no doubt an improvement in some cases.

HEALTH EDUCATION

As well as giving talks on health to a number of Voluntary Organisations during the year I gave a course of lectures on personal hygiene and the health services to schoolchildren in their last year at school. The subjects included—achievements in public health in this country, infectious diseases, tuberculosis, water supplies, milk supply, food and nutrition.

The children appeared to be genuinely interested, and it is thought that the knowledge assimilated will be of benefit to them in the future.

The lectures were given through the courtesy of the head teachers, and I am grateful to them for their co-operation in this comparatively new venture.

At one Secondary School the Headmaster agreed to a paper being set at the end of the course, and prizes were given for the best efforts by the boys and girls. It was interesting to find that the standard of answers was higher in the girls than in the boys.

TUBERCULIN TESTED MILK

In the late summer there was an increase in the number of Tuberculin Tested milks which failed the methylene blue test, at which some members of the Committee expressed their concern and asked me to submit a full report to the next meeting. This report is reproduced below:—

I think that in the first place I should indicate what the methylene blue test is and why it is used as an indicator of the cleanliness or otherwise of milk.

There are reducing systems present in milk in which bacteria are actively multiplying, and advantage is taken of this fact to utilise the methylene blue test for the examination of the cleanliness of milks.

Professor G. S. Wilson, who is the Principal of the Public Health Laboratory Service for England and Wales, discusses this test very fully in his book "The Bacteriological Grading of Milk," and states that it is a simple inexpensive test and that it affords on the whole a very good indication of the keeping quality of the milk. He emphasises that at least 75 per cent. of samples from the individual producer throughout the year should pass the test, *and that condemnation of the producer or distributor on the result of single samples is highly undesirable and often unjust, and should be avoided by public health officials.*

Sir William Savage, late County Medical Officer of Health for Somerset, and probably the greatest authority on milk in this country, discusses the methylene blue test in a book published recently. He considers that this test is probably too stringent in summer and too lenient in winter, due to the fact that the sample of milk before examination has to be kept at atmospheric temperature for a specified number of hours, and in hot weather this is a very severe test. He sets out in a table the results of milks submitted to this test in Somerset over a period of three years, month by month, and the percentage of failures varied from 3 per cent. in December and January to 41 per cent. in both July and August. He goes on to state that the high percentage of failures in the hot months is the more significant in that in Somerset the policy pursued is always to insist upon a high standard of equipment and of method *before* a licence is granted and that every producer of Tuberculin Tested milks is equipped to produce milk of low bacterial content.

I have described the methylene blue test in some detail so that members of the Committee can understand the significance of the percentage of milks failing this test.

In this district in 1952 there were 35 failures out of 260 samples—a percentage of 13—in 1953 the percentage was 10 and so far this year of 177 samples taken 28 have failed, a percentage of 16. In my opinion these figures show that the standard of clean milk production in this district is satisfactory, although of course I would prefer to see a lower number of failures.

After the meeting of this Committee I wrote to Captain Paget, the County Milk Production Officer, pointing out that there had been a larger number of failures than usual, and asked for his comments. This Officer, accompanied by Mr. Brooks, the Provincial Milk Officer for Surrey, Kent, East

and West Sussex, paid me a visit at my office and we discussed the whole problem.

They informed me that from observation of their own sample results and conditions of farms, this area compares favourably with other parts of the county. Following this meeting I received a letter from the County Milk Production Officer as follows:—

“I was glad to hear that you have no serious complaint about milk from any of the farms in East Sussex. Going through the five cases named by you, it appears that you have only had isolated instances of sample failures, and very few of those. This confirms our own record of sampling of milk from these farms. I confirm that it has not been necessary in any of these cases to take statutory action.

As requested, it is confirmed that the Milk Sub-Committee does take statutory action where conditions or sample results continue to be unsatisfactory and a number of Tuberculin Tested Licences have been formally suspended, revoked or refused.

From our conversation it is apparent that you are fully aware of the limitations of the methylene blue test and the importance of examining the results of a series of tests from each source. The results of these tests depend partly on conditions of sampling, storage and age of milk when tested. I gather some of your failures have occurred with bottled milk and some with bulk milk sampled during or after delivery, and that you are not always in possession of reliable information as to its actual age.

As explained, my figures are on a county basis and no information is available to compare your district with others, but from observation of our own sample results and conditions of farms, I should imagine that your area compares well with other parts of the county.

Mr. Brooks was glad to hear that you are satisfied with the arrangements already made for conditions on farms where there are sample failures, and wishes me to assure you of our willingness to co-operate in every way.

Some of the failures in your records appear to occur in milk coming from outside this county. Mr. Brooks hopes that similar arrangements are in force, and, if necessary, will be glad to take the matter up with the county concerned.”

There is one point concerning the source of the milks sampled which requires clarification. Samples are taken from churns at the dairy, shortly after the milk arrives there, and it is, of course, known from which farm the milk has been produced. Where the dairy receives farm-bottled milk, samples are taken from the bottles. I mention this to show that if and when failures occur the fault must lie with the producer and not with the dairyman. In order to ensure that the dairyman is playing his part we carry out tests, as the Committee are aware, on empty cleansed milk bottles, and the majority of these tested are found to be satisfactory.

My thanks are due to Mr. F. G. Jones, Senior Sanitary Inspector, for his help and co-operation and for the particulars supplied for this Report, and to the other members of that staff, and in particular to Miss Everson, my Secretary.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the consideration, support and assistance I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be, Ladies Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. B. STOTT,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

| | | |
|---|-------|---|
| <i>Medical Officer of Health</i> | .. | WILLIAM B. STOTT, L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Camb.) (Also Medical Officer of Health to Cuckfield Urban and Burgess Hill Urban Districts) |
| <i>Deputy Medical Officer of Health</i> | | H. L. DUKE, O.B.E., M.D., SC.D. (Camb.), D.T.M. & Hy. |
| <i>Senior Sanitary Inspector</i> | .. | F. G. JONES, M.B.E., F.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. <i>Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods</i> |
| <i>Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector</i> | | R. S. RELF, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. <i>Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods</i> |
| <i>District Sanitary Inspector</i> | .. | B. P. DARKING, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. <i>Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods</i> |
| <i>Clerks to the M.O.H.</i> | .. .. | Miss G. L. EVERSON Miss J. M. LEWRY |
| <i>Clerk to the S.S.I.</i> | .. .. | Miss I. ROBBINS |

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Summary of Statistics for the years:

| | | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 |
|--|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Area of District in Acres | .. .. | 74,360 | 68,011 | 68,011 |
| Population estimated to middle of year | .. | 29,350 | 25,020 | 25,420 |
| Rateable Value | .. .. | £225,251 (at 1.4.52) | £202,409 (at 1.4.53) | £207,175 (at 1.4.54) |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate | .. .. | £939 | £843 | £860 |
| Density of Population (persons per acre) | .. | 0.39 | 0.40 | 0.37 |
| Number of Houses | .. .. | 9,132 | 7,686 | 7,879 |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 population | .. .. | 13.70 | 12.72 | 13.73 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 population | .. .. | 11.82 | 12.13 | 12.12 |
| Infant Mortality Rate | .. .. | 22.39 | 26.32 | 8.60 |

CAUSES OF DEATH IN CUCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

| | | | | | | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> |
|----------------|---|----|----|----|----|--------------|----------------|
| 1. | Tuberculosis, respiratory | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 2. | Tuberculosis, other | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 3. | Syphilitic disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 4. | Diphtheria | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 5. | Whooping Cough | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 6. | Meningococcal infections | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 7. | Acute poliomyelitis | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 8. | Measles | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 10. | Malignant neoplasm, stomach | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 | 6 |
| 11. | Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 | — |
| 12. | Malignant neoplasm, breast | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | 3 |
| 13. | Malignant neoplasm, uterus | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | 1 |
| 14. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | .. | .. | .. | .. | 14 | 24 |
| 15. | Leukaemia, aleukaemia | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 16. | Diabetes | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | 2 |
| 17. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | .. | .. | .. | .. | 23 | 30 |
| 18. | Coronary disease, angina | .. | .. | .. | .. | 23 | 18 |
| 19. | Hypertension with heart disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | — |
| 20. | Other heart disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | 35 | 45 |
| 21. | Other circulatory disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 9 |
| 22. | Influenza | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | — |
| 23. | Pneumonia | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 3 |
| 24. | Bronchitis | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 | 1 |
| 25. | Other diseases of respiratory system | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 26. | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 |
| 27. | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | — |
| 28. | Nephritis and nephrosis | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of prostate | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 | — |
| 30. | Pregnancy, childbirth abortion | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 31. | Congenital malformations | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 32. | Other defined and ill-defined diseases | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 | 10 |
| 33. | Motor vehicle accidents | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | — |
| 34. | All other accidents | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 3 |
| 35. | Suicide | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 36. | Homicide and operations of war | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| Totals | | | | | | 150 | 158 |

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Births and Birth Rate

The following table shows the Births registered for the year 1954:—

| | | | <i>Male</i> | | <i>Female</i> | | <i>Total</i> |
|--------------|----|----|-------------|----|---------------|----|--------------|
| Legitimate | .. | .. | 182 | .. | 151 | .. | 333 |
| Illegitimate | .. | .. | 7 | .. | 9 | .. | 16 |
| | | | <hr/> | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| Totals | .. | | 189 | .. | 160 | .. | 349 |
| | | | <hr/> | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |

This gives a rate of 13.73 per 1,000 population.

The corrected Birth Rate is 15.65.

| | | | <i>Male</i> | | <i>Female</i> | | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------|----|--|-------------|----|---------------|----|--------------|
| Total Stillbirths | .. | | 2 | .. | 3 | .. | 5 |
| Legitimate | .. | | 2 | .. | 3 | .. | 5 |
| Illegitimate | .. | | — | .. | — | .. | — |

Deaths and Death Rate

The following table shows the Deaths registered for the year 1954:—

| <i>Male</i> | | <i>Female</i> | | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------|----|---------------|----|--------------|
| 150 | .. | 158 | .. | 308 |

This gives a mortality rate of 12.12 per 1,000 population.

The corrected death rate is 8.72.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

All milk and water samples, infectious disease and food poisoning specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton. Medical practitioners send the specimens direct to the Laboratory, and they receive the report by telephone, a copy of such report being sent to this office.

My thanks are due to Dr. J. E. Jameson, Medical Director, for his informative reports and helpful advice on many occasions.

Ambulance Facilities

Cases of infectious diseases are now removed by one of the two British Red Cross Society's ambulances stationed at Lavender's Garage, Sussex Road, Haywards Heath.

Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases:

Twenty-six beds are available at the Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital for the treatment of cases of infectious disease, twelve of these beds are in a cubicle block and the other fourteen in a block consisting of two main wards and side wards.

A table on page 22 gives particulars of admissions during the year.

Smallpox

The South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board state that cases of smallpox occurring in this district should be sent to the River Hospitals (Long Reach), Dartford, Kent.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Infant Welfare Centres:

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| Ardingly | Hapstead Hall .. | 1st and 3rd Thursday Dr. on 3rd Thursday |
| Balcombe | Parish Room .. | 1st and 3rd Wednesday Dr. on 3rd Wednesday |
| Bolney | Rawson Institute .. | 4th Tuesday Dr. each session |
| Crawley Down | Village Hall .. | 2nd and 4th Tuesday Dr. on 2nd Tuesday |
| Horsted Keynes | Congregational Church Hall | 3rd Friday Dr. each session |
| Hurstpierpoint | Parish Hall .. | 3rd Tuesday Dr. each session |
| Keymer | Village Hall .. | 1st and 3rd Tuesday Dr. on 1st Tuesday |
| Poynings | Village Hall .. | Last Wednesday Dr. each session |
| Slaugham | Village Hall, Handcross | 3rd Monday Dr. each session |
| Warninglid (Weighing Centre only) | The Seaforth Hall .. | 2nd Tuesday |
| West Hoathly | Village Hall .. | 1st and 3rd Tuesday Dr. on 1st Tuesday |
| Cuckfield | Congregational Church Hall | 2nd and 4th Friday Dr. on 2nd Friday |
| Lindfield | The Tiger .. | 1st Monday Dr. each session |

Clinics:

| | | |
|--------------------|---|----------------|
| Chest | Haywards Heath Hospital, Haywards Heath | Every Thursday |
|--------------------|---|----------------|

| | | | |
|---|-------|---|--|
| Orthopaedic | .. | E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill | Tuesday 9 a.m.-12.30 p.m. Friday 9 a.m.-12.30 p.m. Dr. usually attends 3rd and/ or 4th Wednesday at 10.30 a.m. (by appointment) |
| Speech Therapy | .. | E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill | Wednesday, 9 a.m. Friday 9 a.m. (by appointment) Wednesday 2 p.m. (by appointment) |
| Child Guidance | .. | East Grinstead: Moat Road Lewes: Castlegate House Hove: 33 Clarendon Villas | Every Friday 10 a.m. (by appointment) Every Wednesday 10 a.m. (by appointment) Tuesday 10 a.m. Thursday 2 p.m. |
| Eye Refractions (School Children) | .. | Cuckfield Hospital Haywards Heath Hospital | By appointment By appointment |
| Dental | .. .. | E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath | By appointment |
| School Clinic | .. | E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath | Dr. Sweeney (by appointment) |
| *Family Planning | .. | E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath | 2nd and 4th Wednesday 2 p.m. Dr. each session (by appointment) |
| *Sub-Fertility | .. | E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath | 1st Wednesday 2 p.m. Dr. each session (by appointment) |
| Venereal Diseases | .. | Facilities available at Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton | |
| | | Men | Monday .. 4.30 p.m. Wednesday .. 9.30 a.m. Thursday .. 1.30 p.m. |
| | | Women and Children | Tuesday .. 1.30 p.m. Thursday .. 10.0 a.m. Saturday .. 9.30 a.m. |
| | | New cases must attend at least one hour before the Clinic closes | |

* These Clinics are provided by the Family Planning Association

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS

| Disease | Total Cases Notified | Under 1 year | 1-2 | 2-3 | 3-4 | 4-5 | 5-10 | 10-15 | 15-20 | 20-35 | 35-45 | 45-65 | 65 and over | Cases admitted to Hospital | Total Deaths |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Scarlet Fever .. | 11 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 7 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 6 | - |
| Erysipelas .. | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 | - |
| Pneumonia .. | 3 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Dysentery .. | 18 | - | 3 | 4 | 3 | - | 5 | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | 3 | - |
| Food Poisoning .. | 23 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 4 | 4 | 8 | 5 | - | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia .. | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Measles .. | 10 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Whooping Cough .. | 72 | 4 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 32 | 3 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - |
| Totals .. | 142 | 4 | 5 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 48 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 13 | 1 |

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN PARISHES

| Parish | | | | Scarlet Fever | Erysipelas | Pneumonia | Dysentery | Food Poisoning | Puerperal Pyrexia | Measles | Whooping Cough | Totals |
|-----------------|----|----|----|---------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|---------|----------------|--------|
| Ardingly | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 | 20 |
| Balcombe | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 | .. | 5 |
| Bolney | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 | 7 |
| Cuckfield Rural | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 17 | .. | .. | 1 | 3 | 21 |
| Fulking | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 4 |
| Horsted Keynes | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 2 |
| Hurstpierpoint | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 7 | 12 |
| Keymer | .. | .. | .. | 5 | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 5 | 12 |
| Lindfield Rural | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Slaughtam | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 17 | 18 |
| West Hoathly | .. | .. | .. | 2 | .. | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | 8 |
| Worth | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 20 | 1 | .. | 7 | 29 |
| Totals | .. | .. | .. | 11 | 2 | 3 | 18 | 23 | 3 | 10 | 72 | 142 |

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1954

| Age Groups | New Cases | | | | Deaths | | | |
|-------------|-------------|---------|-----------------|---------|-------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | |
| | Males | Females | Males | Females | Males | Females | Males | Females |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 0 - 1.. | .. | .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1 - 5.. | .. | .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5 - 15 | .. | .. | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 15 - 25 | .. | .. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 25 - 35 | .. | .. | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| 35 - 45 | .. | .. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 45 - 55 | .. | .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 55 - 65 | .. | .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 65 and over | .. | .. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | .. | .. | 4 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |

COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS, 1943-1954

| Year | New Cases | | | | | | Deaths | | | | | | Number on Register at end of Year | | | | | |
|------|-----------|----|-------|---------------|---|-------|-----------|---|-------|---------------|---|-------|-----------------------------------|----|-------|---------------|----|-------|
| | Pulmonary | | | Non-Pulmonary | | | Pulmonary | | | Non-Pulmonary | | | Pulmonary | | | Non-Pulmonary | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | M | F | Total | M | F | Total | M | F | Total | M | F | Total | M | F | Total | M | F | Total |
| 1943 | 15 | 8 | 23 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 10 | 4 | 14 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 46 | 44 | 90 | 21 | 25 | 46 |
| 1944 | 9 | 5 | 14 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 9 | - | - | - | 50 | 48 | 98 | 23 | 29 | 52 |
| 1945 | 16 | 15 | 31 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 11 | - | 1 | 1 | 55 | 47 | 102 | 22 | 27 | 49 |
| 1946 | 9 | 3 | 12 | 2 | 8 | 10 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 58 | 47 | 105 | 23 | 35 | 58 |
| 1947 | 13 | 11 | 24 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 1 | - | 1 | 62 | 51 | 113 | 25 | 35 | 60 |
| 1948 | 12 | 9 | 21 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 12 | - | 1 | 1 | 59 | 51 | 110 | 27 | 34 | 61 |
| 1949 | 23 | 8 | 31 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 6 | - | 6 | 1 | - | 1 | 73 | 56 | 129 | 30 | 36 | 66 |
| 1950 | 13 | 11 | 24 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 81 | 58 | 139 | 30 | 33 | 63 |
| 1951 | 17 | 12 | 29 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | - | 1 | 85 | 66 | 151 | 27 | 36 | 63 |
| 1952 | 8 | 15 | 23 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | 1 | 87 | 78 | 165 | 29 | 40 | 69 |
| 1953 | 9 | 2 | 11 | 9 | - | 9 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 78 | 69 | 147 | 25 | 37 | 62 |
| 1954 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 70 | 58 | 128 | 14 | 18 | 32 |

CUCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

Death Rate for Tuberculosis for past twelve years

| Year | Tuberculosis Death Rate |
|------|-------------------------|
| 1943 | 0.68 |
| 1944 | 0.34 |
| 1945 | 0.47 |
| 1946 | 0.26 |
| 1947 | 0.33 |
| 1948 | 0.46 |
| 1949 | 0.24 |
| 1950 | 0.07 |
| 1951 | 0.14 |
| 1952 | 0.14 |
| 1953 | 0.04 |
| 1954 | Nil |

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1940-1954

| Year | Esti- mated Popula- tion | Number of Births | | | | | | Birth Rate | Number of Deaths | | | Death Rate | Infants' Deaths | | | Infant Death Rate | Natural Increase of Births over Deaths |
|------|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----|-------|--------------|----|-------|---------------|---------------------|-----|-------|---------------|--------------------|---|-------|-------------------------|--|
| | | Legitimate | | | Illegitimate | | | | M | F | Total | | M | F | Total | | |
| | | M | F | Total | M | F | Total | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1940 | 29,390 | 141 | 159 | 300 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 10.68 | 189 | 206 | 395 | 13.44 | 4 | 7 | 11 | 33.13 | -81 |
| 1941 | 29,450 | 155 | 153 | 308 | 14 | 11 | 25 | 11.30 | 178 | 205 | 383 | 13.00 | 9 | 6 | 15 | 41.32 | -50 |
| 1942 | 27,510 | 213 | 193 | 406 | 14 | 18 | 32 | 15.92 | 158 | 167 | 325 | 11.81 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 20.55 | 113 |
| 1943 | 26,470 | 203 | 213 | 416 | 27 | 20 | 47 | 17.49 | 157 | 156 | 313 | 11.82 | 7 | 4 | 11 | 23.76 | 150 |
| 1944 | 26,290 | 240 | 223 | 463 | 20 | 19 | 39 | 19.09 | 169 | 184 | 353 | 13.43 | 10 | 6 | 16 | 31.87 | 149 |
| 1945 | 25,600 | 181 | 177 | 358 | 19 | 22 | 41 | 15.59 | 155 | 177 | 332 | 12.97 | 8 | 5 | 13 | 32.58 | 67 |
| 1946 | 26,610 | 188 | 218 | 406 | 20 | 19 | 39 | 16.72 | 168 | 167 | 335 | 12.59 | 11 | 6 | 17 | 38.20 | 110 |
| 1947 | 27,180 | 259 | 225 | 484 | 12 | 11 | 23 | 18.65 | 173 | 202 | 375 | 13.80 | 3 | 8 | 11 | 21.70 | 132 |
| 1948 | 28,400 | 226 | 196 | 422 | 12 | 14 | 26 | 14.86 | 187 | 178 | 365 | 12.85 | 13 | 4 | 17 | 40.28 | 83 |
| 1949 | 28,850 | 207 | 198 | 405 | 10 | 9 | 19 | 14.70 | 172 | 199 | 371 | 12.86 | 4 | 6 | 10 | 23.58 | 53 |
| 1950 | 29,390 | 202 | 189 | 391 | 13 | 9 | 22 | 14.05 | 193 | 183 | 376 | 12.79 | 10 | 3 | 13 | 31.47 | 37 |
| 1951 | 29,280 | 165 | 147 | 312 | 5 | 7 | 12 | 11.07 | 171 | 196 | 367 | 12.53 | 6 | 6 | 12 | 37.04 | -43 |
| 1952 | 29,350 | 190 | 195 | 385 | 5 | 12 | 17 | 13.70 | 171 | 176 | 347 | 11.82 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 22.39 | 55 |
| 1953 | 25,020 | 178 | 150 | 328 | 10 | 4 | 14 | 12.72 | 136 | 190 | 326 | 12.13 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 26.32 | 16 |
| 1954 | 25,420 | 182 | 151 | 333 | 7 | 9 | 16 | 13.73 | 150 | 158 | 308 | 12.12 | - | 3 | 3 | 8.60 | 41 |

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

0 - 15 Years of Age

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Number on roll | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,526 |
| Number immunised | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,262 |
| Percentage | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 95 |

0 - 5 Years of Age

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Number on roll | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,580 |
| Number immunised | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,387 |
| Percentage | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 88 |

The table below shows the immunisation figures for every school in the district:—

| | On Roll | Immunised | Percentage |
|---|---------|-----------|------------|
| SCHOOLS: PRIMARY AND COUNTY SECONDARY | | | |
| Handcross | 144 | 144 | 100 |
| Horsted Keynes | 68 | 68 | 100 |
| Pyecombe | 36 | 36 | 100 |
| Scaynes Hill | 45 | 45 | 100 |
| Slaugham-Warninglid | 64 | 64 | 100 |
| West Hoathly | 140 | 140 | 100 |
| Twineham | 27 | 27 | 100 |
| Ardingly | 97 | 96 | 99 |
| Balcombe | 142 | 141 | 99 |
| Copthorne | 129 | 128 | 99 |
| Bolney | 60 | 59 | 98 |
| Crawley Down | 121 | 119 | 98 |
| Hassocks | 252 | 247 | 98 |
| Hurstpierpoint Primary | 282 | 275 | 98 |
| Hurstpierpoint County Secondary | 170 | 167 | 98 |
| Staplefield | 45 | 44 | 98 |
| Turners Hill | 76 | 74 | 97 |
| Albourne | 48 | 46 | 96 |
| Sayers Common | 47 | 45 | 96 |
| Poynings | 56 | 53 | 95 |
| | 2,049 | 2,018 | 98 |
| NOT YET AT SCHOOL, or at school outside our area | 489 | 477 | 98 |
| SCHOOLS, Private | 1,408 | 1,374 | 98 |
| | 3,946 | 3,869 | 98 |

During the year:—

321 children were immunised

382 children were Schick tested

401 children had a reinforcing injection

VACCINATION

One hundred and eighty-nine children were vaccinated under the age of one year—a percentage of 57.

THE MID-SUSSEX ISOLATION HOSPITAL

I am indebted to the Matron, Miss J. M. Reid, for the following particulars of cases admitted during the year:—

| Disease | Cuckfield Rural District | Cuckfield Urban District | Burgess Hill Urban District | East Grinstead Urban District | Uckfield Rural District | Other Districts | Total |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Poliomyelitis | - | - | - | 1 | 3 | - | 4 |
| Observation Poliomyelitis .. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Scarlet Fever | 7 | 2 | - | 4 | - | 2 | 15 |
| Measles and Pneumonia | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Whooping Cough | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Observation Dysentery | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 2 |
| Gastro-enteritis | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | 2 |
| Chickenpox | 1 | - | - | - | - | 4 | 5 |
| Chickenpox and Shingles | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Shingles | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Erysipelas | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Erysipelas and Cellulitis | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Cellulitis | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Mumps | 1 | - | 2 | - | - | - | 3 |
| Mumps and Orchitis | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Tonsillitis | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Laryngitis | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Sinusitis | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Sinusitis and Drug Rash | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 2 | - | - | 1 | - | - | 3 |
| Impetigo | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Migraine | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Tuberculosis | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 19 | 22 |
| Totals | 21 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 28 | 74 |

The Cubicle Block allowed twenty-two different diseases, observation cases or diseases with complications to be dealt with.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Mr. F. G. Jones, Senior Sanitary Inspector, has furnished the following report on the sanitary supervision of the District:—

WATER SUPPLY

(a) Public Supplies

The District is extremely well supplied with piped water from the public mains and private sources. Out of a total of 7,879 houses, an increase of 193 over 1953, 7,615 have a piped supply into the houses; this gives a percentage of 96.7. A further 17 houses have a main supply from standpipes.

The following table shows the position with regard to the number of houses with a piped supply in each parish:—

| Parish | No. of Houses | Houses with piped Supply | | Standpipes | |
|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | No. | Population | No. | Population |
| Albourne .. | 163 | 157 | 511 | — | — |
| Ardingly .. | 372 | 368 | 1,193 | — | — |
| Balcombe .. | 436 | 432 | 1,403 | — | — |
| Bolney.. .. | 328 | 316 | 1,027 | — | — |
| Clayton .. | 283 | 281 | 1,238 | — | — |
| Cuckfield Rural | 541 | 539 | 1,751 | — | — |
| Fulking .. | 100 | 70 | 225 | 3 | 10 |
| Horsted Keynes | 361 | 313 | 1,017 | — | — |
| Hurstpierpoint . | 1,280 | 1,232 | 4,010 | — | — |
| Keymer .. | 1,037 | 1,032 | 3,354 | — | — |
| Lindfield Rural | 392 | 388 | 1,255 | — | — |
| Newtimber .. | 45 | 43 | 139 | — | — |
| Poynings .. | 104 | 92 | 299 | 8 | 26 |
| Pyecombe .. | 78 | 71 | 230 | 6 | 19 |
| Slaugham .. | 519 | 514 | 1,670 | — | — |
| Twineham .. | 90 | 86 | 279 | — | — |
| West Hoathly.. | 501 | 486 | 1,579 | — | — |
| Worth .. | 1,249 | 1,195 | 3,883 | — | — |
| Totals .. | 7,879 | 7,615 | 25,063 | 17 | 55 |

During the year samples were taken from each of the public supplies for chemical and bacteriological analysis. All were satisfactory.

| Supply | Bacteriological | Chemical |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Pyecombe | 2 | 2 |
| Mid-Sussex Joint Water Board's Supply | 3 | 3 |
| Burgess Hill Water Company's Supply | 4 | 6 |
| Worth and West Hoathly Supply .. | 4 | 1 |

(i) All public supplies are sampled monthly for bacteriological examination and all were reported on as being satisfactory.

(ii) The Boards or Companies responsible for the pipe supply carried out monthly bacteriological examination on the raw water. All waters are chlorinated after filtration. Samples of all public supplies were taken for chemical analysis and all were satisfactory.

(iii) None of the supplies is liable to plumbo-solvent action.

(iv) There was no evidence that any of the supplies were contaminated.

The table on page 23 gives separate information in respect of each parish in the District.

(b) Private Supplies

During the year 37 samples were taken for bacteriological examination. The samples taken refer to supplies serving 120 dwellings, a few of which were sampled on several occasions.

In all, 18 dwellings and 3 dairy farms were found to have unfit or doubtful supplies, in addition to the 13 outstanding from the previous year.

Arising from notices served on the owners, the following works were completed:—

No. of dwellings connected to the main 1

No. of dwellings, works completed and fit upon analysis 9

No. of dwellings with unfit supplies outstanding at end of year 21

The following are the estate supplies sampled:—

| Estate | No. of Dwellings | Fit | Unfit |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----|-------|
| Newtimber | 21 | 21 | — |
| Hole's Supply, Albourne | 24 | 24 | — |
| Poyning's Grange | 9 | 9 | — |
| Fen Place Camping Site, Turners Hill | 20 | 20 | — |

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

| | | |
|---|--------------------|-------|
| Total No. of Inspections under Public Health and Housing Acts and Licensing of Work | | 1,912 |
| Infectious Disease | No. of inspections | 73 |
| Factories | No. of inspections | 48 |
| Water Supplies | No. of inspections | 82 |
| Rats and Mice | No. of visits | 1,285 |
| Drainage (Scaynes Hill, Horsted Keynes, Handcross, Pease Pottage) | No. of visits | 563 |
| Drainage (General) | No. of visits | 357 |
| Survey—Cesspool Emptying | No. of visits | 192 |
| Moveable Dwellings | No. of inspections | 23 |
| Shops Act | No. of inspections | 8 |
| Flies and Vermin | No. of visits | 42 |
| Inns | No. of inspections | 52 |
| Swimming Pools | No. of visits | 11 |
| Milk Supply | No. of visits | 207 |
| No. of visits to Butchers' Shops and Slaughterhouses | | 298 |
| „ Food Shops | | 90 |
| „ Catering Establishments | | 47 |
| „ Ice-cream premises | | 26 |
| „ Bakehouses | | 26 |
| Total | | 5,342 |

MILK SUPPLY

29 purveyors retail milk in the area (including outside retail purveyors).

All the Schools are now supplied with Pasteurised Milk.

There is a tendency for the retailers to purchase milk in bottles and thus obviate the necessity of bottle washing on their premises.

23 samples of bottles (each a batch of 3) were taken from retail purveyors during the year to check whether or not, in the case of unsatisfactory milk samples, the bottles were at fault. If it was proved to be the milk reports were forwarded to the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The samples of bottles were reported on as follows:—

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| No. of satisfactory samples | 20 |
| No. of unsatisfactory samples | 3 |

During the year the following milk sampling was carried out:—

(a) Ungraded Milks

40 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, of which one was unsatisfactory.

(b) Graded Milks

(i) Tuberculin Tested Milk

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of samples taken | 215 |
| No. of samples found to be unsatisfactory .. | 35 |

(ii) Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of samples taken | 56 |
| No. of samples found to be unsatisfactory .. | 1 |

(iii) Pasteurised Milk

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of samples taken | 47 |
| No. of samples found to be unsatisfactory .. | 1 |

Reports on the unsatisfactory samples were forwarded to the Authority in which the pasteurising plants were situated.

(iv) Accredited Milk

One sample was taken and was satisfactory.

School Milks

The supplies to schools were sampled at the retailers and in all cases were satisfactory.

Biological Sampling

All milk retailed in the district (with the exception of heat treated milk) was examined for the presence of tuberculosis. In all, 89 samples were taken, of which one was found to be positive. This was reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Water Supplies to Dairy Farms

The supplies to 12 dairy farms were sampled, resulting in 2 being found unsatisfactory. At the end of the year works were in progress to remedy the condition.

Milk (Special Designation) Orders

Licences granted by the Cuckfield Rural District Council:—

Retailers

| | |
|---|----|
| Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised (Supplementary) | 1 |
| Tuberculin Tested | 13 |
| „ (Supplementary) | 11 |
| Pasteurised | 8 |
| „ (Supplementary) | 13 |
| Accredited | 2 |
| „ (Supplementary) | 2 |
| Sterilised | 2 |
| „ (Supplementary) | 5 |

ICE-CREAM

There are no manufacturers of Ice-Cream in the area. Of the 97 vendors the majority retail wrapped ice-cream and store their products in conservators.

During the year 12 samples were taken, all of which were satisfactory.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

Four Slaughterhouses are licensed and all animals slaughtered were inspected. As a result of the inspections the following meat was condemned:—

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Tuberculosis | 842½lbs. |
| Other diseases | 197 lbs. |
| Total | 1,039½lbs. |

The classification of animals slaughtered is as follows:—

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Steers | 69 |
| Heifers | 43 |
| Calves | 39 |
| Sheep | 63 |
| Pigs | 112 |

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

| | |
|---|---|
| No. of licences to Slaughter Animals renewed .. | 4 |
|---|---|

Food Inspection

During the year the following foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Home Killed Beef | 333lbs. |
| Home Killed Pork | 50lbs. |
| Imported Lamb | 147lbs. |
| Corned Beef | 24lbs. |
| Tinned Ham | 17lbs. |
| Canned Fruit | 92lbs. |
| Dried Fruit | 55lbs. |
| Fish | 14lbs. |
| Luncheon Meat | 12lbs. |

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Works of redrainage and connection to the sewers was continued at Scaynes Hill and Horsted Keynes and commenced at Handcross and Pease Pottage. The following is a summary of the position at the end of the year:—

Scaynes Hill

| | | |
|---|---------|-----|
| No. of properties capable of being connected to the sewer | .. | 135 |
| .. properties connected to the sewer | .. .. . | 109 |
| .. properties completely re-drained | .. .. . | 32 |
| .. pail or chemical closets converted to water closets | .. | 25 |
| .. new closet structures | .. .. . | 7 |
| .. closet structures modified | .. .. . | 16 |

Horsted Keynes

| | | |
|---|---------|-----|
| No. of properties capable of being connected to the sewer | .. | 215 |
| .. dwellings connected to the sewer | .. .. . | 161 |
| .. other properties connected to sewer | .. .. . | 1 |
| .. other properties | .. .. . | 4 |
| .. dwellings completely re-drained | .. .. . | 70 |
| .. dwellings—drainage modified | .. .. . | 91 |
| .. pail or chemical closets converted to water closets | .. | 56 |
| .. closets provided with flushing | .. .. . | 3 |

Handcross

| | | |
|---|---------|-----|
| No. of properties capable of being connected to the sewer | .. | 202 |
| .. dwelling-houses connected to sewer | .. .. . | 64 |
| .. other premises connected to sewer | .. .. . | 1 |
| .. dwellings completely re-drained | .. .. . | 36 |
| .. dwellings—drainage modified | .. .. . | 28 |
| .. pail or chemical closets converted to water closets | .. | 5 |

Pease Pottage

| | | |
|---|---------|----|
| No. of properties capable of being connected to the sewer | .. | 95 |
| .. dwelling-houses connected to sewer | .. .. . | 69 |
| .. other premises connected to sewer | .. .. . | 1 |
| .. dwellings completely re-drained | .. .. . | 7 |
| .. dwellings—drainage modified | .. .. . | 62 |
| .. pail or chemical closets converted to water closets | .. | 6 |

HOUSING SURVEY

During the year 7 dwellings which were originally in category “5” of the Housing Survey (unfit for human habitation and cannot be made fit at a reasonable cost) were transferred to a higher category on completion of works, as follows:—

| Original Category | No. of Dwellings | New Category | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|---|---|
| | | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 5 | 7 | 2 | — | 5 |
| 3 | 13 | — | 6 | 7 |
| 2 | 1 | — | — | 1 |

Action was taken during the year under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, as follows:—

| | |
|--|---|
| No. of houses—Demolition Orders | 4 |
| „ —Undertakings accepted | 3 |
| „ —Demolished in anticipation of formal action.. | 3 |
| „ —Demolished | 5 |

The following is a summary of the works of repair and improvement carried out:—

(i) **Drainage and Closet Accommodation**

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of properties connected to sewer | 172 |
| „ re-drained or improved | 52 |
| „ septic tank and filter installed | 21 |
| „ disposal plants improved | 9 |
| „ cesspools constructed | 5 |
| „ drainage systems unblocked | 8 |
| „ manholes provided to drains | 20 |
| „ conversions from earth or chemical closets to water closets | 33 |
| „ new closet structures built or converted .. | 29 |
| „ new w.c. pans provided | 26 |
| „ flushing apparatus provided | 5 |
| „ new sinks provided | 17 |
| „ trapped waste pipes provided | 11 |
| „ new draining boards provided | 21 |

(ii) **Housing**

(a) **Dampness**

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of houses—horizontal damp-proof course provided .. | 2 |
| „ —vertical damp-proof course provided | 3 |
| „ —internal cavity wall formed | 14 |
| „ —waterproof cement rendering (internal) .. | 6 |
| „ —cement rendered and tile hung | 6 |
| „ —walls repaired or repointed | 21 |
| „ —site concrete laid | 1 |
| „ —roof repaired or renewed | 27 |
| „ —chimneys repaired or rebuilt | 32 |
| „ —rainwater collection and disposal improved .. | 23 |
| „ —sub-floor ventilation provided or improved .. | 3 |

(b) **General**

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of new boarded floors provided or floors repaired .. | 48 |
| „ solid floors provided | 45 |
| „ foodstores provided and lighting and ventilation provided to existing | 23 |
| „ houses—heights of rooms increased | 9 |
| „ houses—repairs to walls and ceiling | 38 |
| „ new windows and existing repaired | 84 |
| „ rooms—additional lighting and ventilation provided .. | 22 |
| „ new cooking ranges and existing repaired | 22 |
| „ houses—new paving provided | 20 |
| „ new firegrates provided and existing repaired .. | 31 |
| „ stairs repaired or renewed | 12 |
| „ stairs lighted | 4 |
| „ handrails provided | 4 |
| „ separate approach to bedrooms provided | 4 |

Whilst we have no statutory powers to demand bathing facilities, the opportunity is always taken to encourage owners to provide this amenity and assistance is always given as to position and where possible the utilising of existing space. During the year 36 dwellings were provided with facilities in this respect; in the majority of cases hot water was provided over the baths and sinks.

HOUSING ACT, 1949-1954

During the year, applications for Improvement Grants were approved in respect of 24 dwellings.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|----|---------|
| The total cost of improvements being | .. | .. | .. | £14,585 |
| Amount of grant approved | .. | .. | .. | £6,230 |

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

In connection with the above, 23 visits were made, and with very few exceptions all dwellings are of the trailer type, in a sound structural condition.

During the year 12 site licences were renewed.

INFESTATION

In all work carried out a preparation containing D.D.T. was used with satisfactory results in dwelling-houses. A total of 34 visits were made, as a result of which the following works were carried out:—

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|---|
| No. of houses treated for vermin .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| „ treated for fly infestation .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

In all, 73 visits were made and 12 rooms were disinfected.

BATHING POOLS

There is one pool open to the general public in the area and four sited at schools; in addition, bathing takes place in two large ponds and one river. Six samples were taken for bacteriological examination, all of which were satisfactory. At one of the pools serving a large school, a modern system of filtration and chlorination was installed.

FACTORIES

During the year 74 visits were made and no statutory action was found to be necessary.

FACTORIES

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

| Premises | No. on Register | Number of | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 30 | 20 | — | — |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) to which section 7 applies—(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement Order, 1938) .. | 80 | 40 | 2 | — |
| (b) others | — | — | — | — |
| (iii) Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) .. | — | — | — | — |
| Totals .. | 110 | 60 | 2 | — |

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

| Particulars | No. of cases in which defects were found | | | | No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|--|--|----------|----------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1.) | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Defective drainage of floors (S.6) .. . | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary convenience (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 1 | 2 | — | 1 | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences (not including offences relating to homework) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals .. | 3 | 4 | — | 2 | — |

RODENT CONTROL

The cost of " Warfarin " is higher than the other types, but the advantage of reducing the number of visits outweighs this when it is realised that a high proportion of time is spent in travelling. No economies in time have been found possible on refuse tip treatments.

In accordance with a resolution of the Council, private dwellings are treated free of charge, whilst business premises are treated at a charge to cover treatment. The cost of treating Council properties is kept separate.

During the year accounts sent in respect of business premises amounted to £25 12s. 9d., whilst the approximate cost of treating Council property was £106 8s. 0d.

The following summarises work carried out during the year:—

Private Dwellings

| | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|-----|
| No. of dwelling-houses surveyed or visited | .. | .. | .. | 173 |
| „ where treatment was carried out | .. | .. | .. | 140 |
| Total number of visits | .. | .. | .. | 816 |

Council Properties

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| No. of treatments carried out | .. | .. | .. | .. | 40 |
| Total number of visits | .. | .. | .. | .. | 202 |

Premises visited comprise the following and routine treatments are carried out quarterly or as required:—

Sewage Works at Copthorne, Balcombe, Hurstpierpoint, Bolney, Poynings, West Hoathly, Ardingly (Main), Ardingly (Church Plant), Horsted Keynes, Pease Pottage and Handcross.

Refuse Tips at Rowfant, Albourne, Handcross.

Depots at Hurstpierpoint and Grange Road.

Business Premises

| | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|-------|
| No. of food shops surveyed or visited | .. | .. | .. | .. | 50 |
| „ food shops where treatment carried out | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| „ catering establishments visited | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| „ catering establishments where treatment carried out | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| „ other business premises (hotels, schools, etc.) surveyed or visited | .. | .. | .. | .. | 58 |
| „ other business premises where treatment carried out | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 |
| „ farms surveyed | .. | .. | .. | .. | 22 |
| „ farms where treatment carried out | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| Total number of visits | .. | .. | .. | .. | 267 |
| Total number of " Warfarin " baits laid | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4,806 |
| Total number of visits | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,285 |

DETAILS OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|------------|
| Overflowing cesspools | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| Drainage | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 |
| Housing defects | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 15 |
| Pollution of ditches | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Refuse collection | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Rats and Mice | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 222 |
| Unsatisfactory living conditions | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Fly infestation | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7 |
| Sanitary accommodation | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 13 |
| Total | | | | | | | <u>279</u> |